

## Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11  
IO-13 OIC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05  
HEW-04 /150 W

-----116082 251909Z/42

R 251734Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6793  
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY SUVA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
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AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICFTU, ILO, ELAB

SUBJ: ICFTU BOARD MEETING: KEY DECISIONS

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 9861 (NOTAL)

(B) BRUSSELS 9838 (NOTAL)

1. THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTION TAKEN BY THE ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN HAMBURG MAY 17-19 WAS TO APPROVE FILING OF AN ILO COMPLAINT AGAINST THE USSR AND POLAND FOR VIOLATING TRADE UNION FREEDOMS (REF A). IN ADDITION, THE BOARD RESOLVED TO "INTENSIFY ACTION FOR THE REESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE UNION FREEDOM IN TUNISIA" (REF B).

2. OTHER SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS, ACCORDING TO ICFTU SOURCES, DEALT WITH:

A. INDONESIA. A DELEGATION OF ICFTU BOARD MEMBERS WILL VISIT INDONESIA AT THE TIME OF THE NEXT CONGRESS OF THE ALL-INDONESIA LABOUR FEDERATION (FBSI), STILL NOT

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SCHEDEDULED, BUT LIKELY TO BE HELD LATE THIS YEAR. A "FACT-FINDING" GROUP MADE UP OF MEMBERS OF ICFTU AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE SECRETARIAT STAFFERS, WILL GO TO JAKARTA IN A FEW WEEKS AS AN ADVANCE TEAM.

B. WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (WCL). ALTHOUGH THE BOARD PASSED NO RESOLUTION ON RELATIONS WITH THE WCL, THE CONSENSUS WAS THAT THE ICFTU SHOULD LET ITS FUTURE POSTURE TOWARD THE WCL HINGE ON HOW WCL PEOPLE HANDLE THEMSELVES AT THE ILO CONFERENCE IN GENEVA NEXT MONTH: I.E., WHETHER THEY TAKE POSITIONS CLOSE TO THE ICFTU'S OR TO THOSE OF THE EAST EUROPEANS.

C. SOUTH AFRICA. A BOARD RESOLUTION URGES AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS TO "CONTINUE PUTTING STRONGEST PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENTS FOR DISINVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, ESPECIALLY WHERE UNION RIGHTS ARE DENIED" AND TO "CONTINUE MOBILIZING RANK-AND-FILE PRESSURE CAMPAIGNS ON COMPANIES WITH INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA, COORDINATED WITH ORGANIZATION EFFORTS INSIDE SOUTH AFRICA."

D. CHILE. THE BOARD ADOPTED (WITHOUT PUBLICITY) A

"CLARIFICATION" OF THE ICFTU'S 1975 CONGRESS RESOLUTION  
CALLING FOR A BOYCOTT OF CHILE, WHICH HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED  
BY VERY FEW NATIONAL CENTERS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE  
NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF LABOR (FOL) HAS TAKEN THE  
RESOLUTION VERY SERIOUSLY, HOWEVER, AND THAT AT THE  
REQUEST OF THE FOL'S JIM KNOX THE BOARD APPROVED A FURTHER  
RESOLUTION THAT WILL ALLOW THE FOL TO LIFT ITS SHIPPING  
BAN ON CHILE WITHOUT ITS LEADERS BEING ACCUSED OF VIOLAT-  
ING ICFTU POLICY.

E. INTERNATIONAL FAIR LABOR STANDARDS. A 14,000-WORD  
ICFTU "DEVELOPMENT CHARTER," IN GESTATION FOR MORE THAN  
TWO YEARS, WAS APPROVED. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE CHARTER  
ASKS THAT INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS INCLUDE "NEW  
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RULES...TO ENSURE THAT EXPORTERS IN THE DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES MEET MINIMUM FAIR LABOR STANDARDS." (FULL TEXT

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OF CHARTER POUCHED TO S/IL.)

F. INTEGRATION OF WOMEN. THE BOARD ENDORSED A PAPER TITLED "THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS," WHICH CALLS FOR THE ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF MORE WOMEN TO TRADE UNION POSITIONS. (THE ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD INCLUDES ONLY ONE WOMAN, SHIRLEY CARR, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN LABOR CONGRESS (CLC), WHO TOLD THE ICFTU BOARD THAT IN THE CLC A MALE VICE PRESIDENT IS IN CHARGE OF WOMEN WORKER QUESTIONS.)

G. URUGUAY. THE GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF URUGUAYAN WORKERS (CGTU) WAS SUSPENDED IN HOPES THAT THIS ACTION WOULD HAVE A "SALUTARY IMPACT" WITHIN THE CGTU, E.G., BRINGING ABOUT "REINSTATEMENT OF ALL THE DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONISTS WHO HAVE BEEN FORCED TO WITHDRAW FROM THAT CONFEDERATION," ACCORDING TO A SECRETARIAT PAPER.

H. NEXT ICFTU CONGRESS. THE 12TH ICFTU WORLD CONGRESS IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN MADRID OCTOBER 1 TO 5, 1979.

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I. NEW AFFILIATES. APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION WERE ACCEPTED FROM THE BASUTOLAND FEDERATION OF LABOR, WHICH CLAIMS 12,000 MEMBERS, AND THE NATIONAL WORKERS UNION OF THE SEYCHELLES, WHICH CLAIMS 6,000 MEMBERS. A THIRD NEW AFFILIATE, THE LESOTHO COUNCIL OF WORKERS, WITH A CLAIMED MEMBERSHIP OF 2,000, WAS ACCEPTED ON THE CONDITION THAT IT SUPPLY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ITS MEMBER UNIONS. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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